

In The Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A handle for a lacrosse stick and mounting a lacrosse head thereon, comprising:

a hollow tube for attachment to the lacrosse head, said hollow tube having an outer surface and an inner surface; and

a reinforcing insert coupled to said inner surface substantially around a circumference of said inner surface at a given location for strengthening said hollow tube;

wherein said reinforcing insert comprises a layer coupled to said inner surface of said hollow tube for defining a generally uniform inner cavity along the length of said reinforcing insert and minimizing the weight of the handle;

wherein said hollow tube is comprised of a metal selected from the group consisting of aluminum, titanium, and a plurality of strong lightweight metals;[.]

wherein said hollow tube has a non-circular cross-sectional shape.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The handle of claim 1 wherein said reinforcing insert extends substantially across a length of said hollow tube.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The handle of claim 1 wherein said reinforcing insert is coupled to said inner surface of said hollow tube substantially around an inner circumference of said hollow tube.

Claim 4 (Original): The handle of claim 1 wherein said reinforcing insert is coupled to a top end portion of said hollow tube.

Claim 5 (Original): The handle of claim 1 wherein said reinforcing insert is coupled to an intermediate portion of said hollow tube.

Claim 6 (Original): The handle of claim 1 wherein said reinforcing insert is coupled to a bottom end portion of said hollow tube.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The handle of claim 1 wherein said reinforcing insert is comprised of a fiberglass material.

Claims 8-10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): A handle for a lacrosse stick and mounting a lacrosse head thereon, comprising:

a hollow tube for attachment to the lacrosse head, said hollow tube having an outer surface and an inner surface; and

a reinforcing insert coupled to said inner surface for strengthening said hollow tube and absorbing vibrations in said hollow tube;

wherein said reinforcing insert comprises a layer coupled to said inner surface of said hollow tube for defining a generally uniform inner cavity generally in the middle of and along the length of said reinforcing insert and minimizing the weight of the handle;

wherein said layer is a bladder membrane and said inner cavity is filled with a semi-fluid for absorbing vibrations in said hollow tube.

Claim 12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The handle of claim 11 wherein said reinforcing insert extends substantially across a length of said hollow tube.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The handle of claim 11 wherein said reinforcing insert is coupled to said inner surface of said hollow tube substantially around an inner circumference of said hollow tube.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The handle of claim 11 wherein said reinforcing insert is coupled to a top end portion of said hollow tube.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The handle of claim 11 wherein said reinforcing insert is coupled to an intermediate portion of said hollow tube.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The handle of claim 11 wherein said reinforcing insert is coupled to a bottom end portion of said hollow tube.

Claims 18-20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The handle of claim 1 wherein two reinforcing inserts respectively are coupled to a top end portion and a bottom end portion of said hollow tube with an intermediate portion of said hollow tube not being supported by said reinforcing inserts.

Claim 22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The handle of claim 1 wherein a top end portion of said hollow tube has said reinforcing insert therein with said reinforcing insert having a substantial thickness.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The handle of claim 1 wherein a bottom end portion of said hollow tube has said reinforcing insert therein with said reinforcing insert having a substantial thickness.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): The handle of claim 11 wherein two of said reinforcing inserts respectively are coupled to a top end portion and a bottom end portion of said

hollow tube with an intermediate portion of said hollow tube not being supported by said reinforcing inserts.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): A handle for a lacrosse stick, comprising:
a hollow metal tube having a first end for engagement with a lacrosse head and a second end opposing said first end;

said hollow metal tube having an inner surface and an outer surface, an insert disposed within said hollow metal tube and in engagement with said inner surface around substantially an entire circumference along at least a portion of said hollow metal tube;

wherein said insert is comprised of a non-metal material and is lightweight;

whereby said insert provides increased strength for said hollow metal tube without substantially increasing the weight;

wherein said insert consists of a layer coupled to said inner surface and defines an inner cavity to further minimize the weight of the handle;

wherein said inner cavity is generally uniform along the length of said reinforcing insert for minimizing the weight of the handle;

wherein said hollow metal tube is selected from the group consisting of aluminum, titanium, and a plurality of strong lightweight metals;[.]

wherein said hollow tube has a generally polygon cross-sectional shape;

wherein said insert is constructed of foam material.

Claim 27 (Cancelled)

Claim 28 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said insert extends substantially along a length of said inner surface of said hollow metal tube.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said insert is coupled to said inner surface adjacent said first end.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said insert is coupled to said inner surface adjacent said second end.

Claim 31 (Cancelled)

Claim 32 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said layer has a substantially uniform thickness.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said insert is coupled to said inner surface substantially along a length of said hollow metal tube.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 33 wherein said insert has a thickness that is larger on one half of the handle than the other half.